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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN THE MATTER OF:

APPLICANT: ARAUJO PORTO

EXAMINER: NGUYEN, TRINH T

SERIAL NO.: 09/837,951

GROUP: 3726

FILING DATE: April 19, 2001

FOR: METHOD OF MANUFACTURING PISTONS AND
COMPONENTS THEREOF, AND FORGING TOOLS

Date: January 18, 2002

RESPONSE

Hon. Commissioner of Patents
and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

SIR:

In the Office Action of December 31, 2001, the Examiner has applied a restriction to the examination of this application, and has required that applicant elect either method claims 1-10, or apparatus claims 11-15.

In response to this requirement for election, applicant provisionally elects method claims 1-10.

The Examiner's restriction requirement is also respectfully traversed on the basis that the subject matter of the claims is so closely related that all claims can be examined together without requiring separate search. It is respectfully requested, therefore, that the Examiner reconsider the restriction requirement.

In view of the provisional election that has been made, as required by the Examiner, it is respectfully requested that an action on the merits of the application be issued.

Respectfully submitted,

Max Fogiel

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231, on 1-18-02.

M. FOGIEL

Name of applicant, assignee, or

Registered Representative

Max Fogiel

Signature

1-18-02

Date of Signature